

Resource 3 (See worksheet 1 & 2)

Needs and Wants Game

Country

U.K

Source

Adapted by Peace Child, from an original outline from UNICEF.

Age group

8-13 years old

Time

30-40 minutes

What do you need

5 sets of sheets with 40 items.

Introduction

The aim of the workshop is to consider the 4 basic things that we need in order to survive and think about people who don't even have those necessities.

What to do

1) Explain that 'needs' refer to the basic necessities of life without which it is difficult to survive such as air, food, water and that 'wants' refer to our various desires such as chocolates, CD's, etc.

2) Set the context: Ask participants to imagine that they have received a really important phone call from the Head of their State, who explained, "We have a lot of problems in the world right now. If everyone all over the world used up as many resources as we do in the North, we would need another 4 planets! So we are going to conduct an experiment." He/she has heard that the participants' class (find out name of class at outset) is an extremely bright group of people so he/she thinks it would be a good idea to send all of them to a new planet. Explain that the new planet has a good atmosphere, so there is clean air for you all to breathe. There is gravity so you all will not float away and there are no aliens, so you don't have to worry about that.

You will be given 6 weeks supply of food and water. But you may be sent off for a few months, maybe a year.

"Explain that is not much time, because you

all will be leaving within the next 30 minutes. So what you need to do is pack your bags and think what you need to take. What is a need and what is a want?

3) Group work: Give each group a set of 40 cards. Explain they have 5 minutes to select 16 'needs' that they believe are essential to survive on this new planet. Ask them to discuss as a team which are the 'needs' and which are the 'wants'. Suggest that they make two different columns of the 'needs' and 'wants'.

4) Then hand round envelopes of cards. Give the group around 10 minutes to get down to 16. Try and wait until all the groups have their 16 cards before going on.

5) When they have done this teams say, "I've got bad news to give, the Head of State said, the rocket ship is not big enough to fit you and your 16 things - so I'm afraid you have to cut them down to 8."

6) When they have reduced the cards to 8 stick up the different cards on the board using the blue-tack. You will have on an average about 15 to 25 different cards on the board but they are allowed to take just 8 things. At this point you conduct a debate with the class and start losing a few cards by getting the class to vote to keep or lose the card. When you have got down to 8 cards, say, "You have done really well but suppose you were allowed to take just 4 cards and not 8?"

7) Carry on with the discussion until you get down to 4 cards. "The 4 cards that you will probably end up with are Water, Seeds, Fertile Soil and one other - usually chickens." Then discuss the idea that for us life would be pretty miserable living with just these 4 basic things, but there are more than a billion people who don't even have access to these 4 basic needs of life that the class just said that they all definitely need to survive. You can then have a discussion about what life would be like with or without these basics.

8) Finish class by explaining they don't have to go on the rocket after all but what they do need to do is to stay back here and take care of this planet and make it a more sustainable place for the future generation to live on.



A Few Facts that can help you in the Presentation

Electrical things - They are not essential. Lots of people manage to live without electricity. Even though a generator is a way to make electricity - if we only have 4 things, it is not essential.

Solar Panel - Be sure to say this is a good way of producing energy - but again we are not bringing appliances because of lack of space. You can survive without electricity.

Mobile phones - We wouldn't get a reception to earth. We won't have electricity. You might also point out that there is scientific evidence suggesting the kind of microwave radiation that mobile phones emit have biological effects. Long exposure to mobile phones destroys cells in parts of the brain important for memory, movement and learning, resulting in illnesses such as Alzheimer's and brain tumours.

Tooth brush - Do we all want to share 1 toothbrush? The neem tree is regarded as one of Mother Nature's gifts to the world. In India, it is commonly found in both villages and cities. Green twigs are used as toothbrushes to combat tooth decay. Its extracts have a powerful pesticide activity and are used by both households and farmers to control a wide variety of pests.

Medicines - Ask them what medicines are made of. Where do a lot of these plants come from? Talk about the medicines that are produced from trees and plants in the rain forest. Neem leaf pastes are used to repair scarred skins arising from the effects of chicken pox. Herbal products have been used for centuries and have been effective in treating many health-related conditions.

Clothes - If we don't bring a full set of clothes - how could we make our own? Ask where our clothes come from. Think about natural fibres that come from plants"

Cotton - Cotton is a natural fibre as it comes from a plant, and makes up nearly half of all the fibre sold in the world. The cotton seedling grows into a young plant and produces cotton bolls. The first bolls open on the lower branches, the last bolls open at the top of the plant. Then you have to clean the cotton, spin it to get thread and weave it into cloth. The seeds can be crushed to get the oil, which can be used for cooking and a wide range of other uses.

Hemp - Hemp fabric is made from the stems of a plant. The stems are dissolved. The gum or pectin is separated from the fibres which are then processed

again and woven into yarns and fabric.

Jute - Jute is a glossy fibre from a plant. It is coarser than the other fabrics and is seen most often in sacks, rope, twine, and as backing on carpeting.

Pig - Only one pig! A pig takes 3-4 yrs to grow. A piglet weighs about 25 pounds and takes about 6 months to reach the market size of 250 pounds. They are going to eat a lot of food.

Cow - Only 1 Cow. Even though it gives us milk, cheese, leather from skin - there is only 1. Cows eat a lot. It may surprise you to find out that most dairy cows eat better than you do. That's because cows are fed a diet based on what they need to grow and produce milk. A cow eats 100 pounds feed and drinks about 225 pounds of water (30 gallons) a day. It takes 100,000 litres of water to produce 1kg of beef but only 900 litres to produce 1 kg of wheat.

Baby chickens - produce eggs - eggs turn into chickens. That is sustainable. Each hen can produce up to 300 eggs per year. They weigh about 4-5 lbs. They will eat from 100 to 120 grams of feed each day. Feathers can be used for pillows, duvets. Dung can be used as manure to go on land.

Population - The world population is now over 6 billion and is increasing by 90 million a year. Human numbers are expected to grow to between 8 and 11 billion before levelling off later in the 21st century

71% of the Earth's surface is covered by water

29% is therefore dry land - of which:

20% of the land surface is too dry for agriculture

20% of the land surface is too cold for agriculture

20% of the land surface is too mountainous for agriculture

20% of the land surface is forested or marshy

20% of the Earth's land surface is left available for growing food and all the other crops that we need for our ever-increasing population.

The average amount of water used per day by a person living in Countries such as Ethiopia, Gambia, or Uganda, is the same as someone in a developed country cleaning their teeth 3 times with the tap running (10 litres)

The UN says everyone needs a minimum of 20 litres a day. In the UK we use on average 150 litres per day.



Basic Needs

Introduction

Human Needs and Human Wants

Mobile Phone	Stereo	Fertile Soil	Cow
I Pod	Dance Music CD	Chest of Medicines	Seed Store
Pig	Sunglasses	Saw	Blankets
Car	Bicycle	Electrical Generator	Solar-electric Panel
Matches	Crockery	Knives and forks	Toothbrush
Soap	Make-up Bag	Full Set of Clothes	Football
Plenty of Paper	Pencils	Computer	Television & Satellite Dish
Library of Books	Wood-burning Stove	Pots & Pans	Microwave Oven
Endless Supply of Toilet Paper	Big Store of Chocolate	Tree Saplings	Baby Chickens
A good bed	Clock	Clean Water or Water Cleaning Tablets	Camera

